

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

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"There is no liberty so sweet and enduring as the liberty of the Gospel; and the wealth, the honours, the dignities of the world cannot equal nor bring that peace which comes from a still and quiet conscience."—CHARLES A. CALLIS.

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INTEGRITY AND SELF-DEPENDENCE

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

THE hymn, "Come, Come, Ye Saints," the great pioneer song with the many memories it brings to me every time I hear it, has changed my programme to-day.

The first thing I am going to read will be from Section 136 of the Doctrine and Covenants. This is "The Word and Will of the Lord" given to President Brigham Young:

And if any man shall seek to build up himself, and seeketh not my counsel, he shall have no power, and his folly shall be made manifest.

Seek ye; and keep all your pledges one with another; and covet not that which is thy brother's.

I cannot think of anything that appeals to me as being the mind and the will of the Lord stronger than the last words that I have read, namely: "Covet not that which is thy brother's."

I want to impress upon the minds of the Latter-day Saints not to covet that which belongs to any public institution, or that which belongs to any city, or county, or the government of the United States. Unless I have been misinformed, many people have said, speaking of the distribution by the government of supplies to the people: "Well, others are getting some, why should not I get some of it."

I believe that there is a growing disposition among the people to try to get something from the government of the United States with little hope of ever paying it back. I think this is all wrong. I believe that there is not that same moral sense among the people to-day that there was forty-five years ago. Forty-five years ago I was associated in business with my brother and my cousin-in-law. The first year we sold a hundred and twenty thousand dollars worth of goods, and ninety thousand dollars worth of those goods were sold on time to the farmers. We borrowed the money to carry these debts, and we netted \$100.50 for every one hundred dollars we had trusted the farmers,

The loss was only \$300, and the interest received paid this and fifty cents per hundred more.

I am connected with that same company now, and it is known as the Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company. During the past few years we have had to charge off over one million dollars of loss on farmers' paper. I do not attribute all of this to a lack of honesty, but there are a great many people who are not honest to-day.

I remember very distinctly that while I was in Europe, J. M. Studebaker visited Salt Lake and was interviewed. He was the last of that quartette of wonderful men, the Studebaker Brothers, who made buggies and wagons. He said that the only State or Territory in the Union of the United States where they had sold wagons and buggies on time for ten long years, and where every wagon and buggy was paid for in full, was in Utah. That was a marvellous compliment to the people of Utah.

Remember that it is the mind and will of the Lord that we keep our pledges.

Keep yourselves from evil to take the name of the Lord in vain, for I am the Lord your God, even the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob.

I am he who led the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt: and my arm is stretched out in the last days to save my people Israel.

Cease to contend one with another; cease to speak evil one of another.

FAULTFINDING IS A GROWING EVIL

A growing evil among our people is to criticise and find fault. I think there is no hymn in the hymn book that I prize more highly—and it was the first one that I learned by heart—than “Should you feel inclined to censure.”

Should you feel inclined to censure
 Faults you may in others view,
 Ask your own heart, ere you venture,
 If that has not failings too.

Let not friendly vows be broken:
 Rather strive a friend to gain;
 Many a word in anger spoken
 Finds its passage home again.

Do not, then, in idle pleasure,
 Trifle with another's fame,
 Guard it as a valued treasure,
 Sacred as your own good name.

Do not form opinions blindly;
 Hastiness to trouble tends,
 Those of whom we thought unkindly,
 Oft become our warmest friends.

Learn it by heart and put it into your lives, and it will be valuable to you.

Cease drunkenness; and let your words tend to edifying one another.

Let me promise you right here and now that if you vote for the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, there will be a great many more professing Latter-day Saints who will be drunkards than

there have been while the Eighteenth Amendment has been in force.

By the way, I received a postal card—the man who sent it did not have the courage to sign his name—asking me not to talk on the Word of Wisdom at this conference. I request each and every Latter-day Saint within the sound of my voice to read what I said about the Word of Wisdom just six months ago. Every word that I said I meant, and among other things I said I hoped and prayed that we as a people would not vote for the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Really, I was almost tempted this morning to read my whole sermon over again, and let it go at that. I think I shall have it printed—in fact, I will have it printed—and anyone of you who wants a copy, or a half dozen copies, can write and get them.

If thou borrowest of thy neighbour [let me add, or anybody else] thou shalt restore that which thou hast borrowed; and if thou canst not repay then go straightway and tell thy neighbour, lest he condemn thee.

That is one of the finest verses that was ever written, and please remember that this I am reading “is the word and will of the Lord.” In other words, do not take the bankruptcy act unless somebody knocks you down. All of my dear friends, many years ago when I was ruined, in their judgment, beyond the per-adventure of a doubt, and there was no possibility, as far as they were able to see, of my ever being able to pay my debts, begged me to take the bankruptcy act. I said: “Not if I live a hundred and ten years. I will go on paying.” And in the providences of the Lord I paid all of my debts.

Now, I am not condemning those who have to take the bankruptcy act; but I know of men whom I have begged and plead with not to take the bankruptcy act, who, if they only had the nerve, the faith, and the willingness to work, would have come out all right. One man took the bankruptcy act and left me carrying his obligation, as I recall, of \$12,700, with \$9,000 security, or a loss of \$3,700. But eventually I made a profit of several thousand more than \$3,700 by assuming the debt and carrying the securities for a few years.

READS FURTHER IN DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS

If thou shalt find that which thy neighbour has lost, thou shalt make diligent search till thou shalt deliver it to him again.

Thou shalt be diligent in preserving what thou hast [in other words, do not be wasteful] that thou mayest be a wise steward; for it is the free gift of the Lord thy God, and thou art his steward.

I recommend to you that you read all of that section. I have read only verses 19 to 27. I will read one more verse:

If thou art merry, praise the Lord with singing, with music, with dancing, and with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

One of the great testimonies to me of the divinity of the work in which you and I are engaged, is the revelations that were given before the Church was organized, and that are recorded in the Doctrine and Covenants. I recommend that you read all of the very first section of the Doctrine and Covenants. It is a very

wonderful section indeed. I have decided to read a few verses of it :

And the arm of the Lord shall be revealed ; and the day cometh that they who will not hear the voice of the Lord, neither the voice of his servants, neither give heed to the words of the prophets and apostles, shall be cut off from among the people.

Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.

What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself ; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same.

Section 4 of the Doctrine and Covenants is a revelation given to the father of the Prophet Joseph Smith, in February, 1829, a year before the Church was organized :

Now behold, a marvellous work is about to come forth among the children of men.

Therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God ; see that ye serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day.

Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are called to the work ;

For behold the field is white already to harvest ; and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in store that he perisheth not, but bringeth salvation to his soul ;

And faith, hope, charity, and love, with an eye single to the glory of God, qualify him for the work.

Remember faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly kindness, godliness, charity, humility, diligence.

Ask, and ye shall receive ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Many of these revelations given before the Church was organized, announced that the field was white already to harvest.

When I stop to think that Wilford Woodruff baptized some eighteen hundred people in less than a year in Herefordshire, England, and that Orson Pratt baptized several thousand people in his missionary work, I realize that the field was indeed ready to harvest.

We have had as high as twenty-three hundred missionaries out in the field for one year, and they did not accomplish as much as Wilford Woodruff accomplished in one year. His labours were simply marvellous to me. The field was "white, ready to harvest." To-day is a day of gleaning.

I read now from Section 42, 42nd to 46th verses :

Thou shalt not be idle ; for he that is idle shall not eat the bread nor wear the garments of the labourer.

BOY'S PARENTS SPURN POSITION.

I heard of a case of a man and his wife and their boy calling on the governor of the state who had a job for the boy. I believe that the amount he was to receive was thirty dollars a month. The man and the woman said : "Our boy shall not work for thirty dollars a month. We will beg first ; we will steal first." I hope that this story has been exaggerated. Thirty dollars a month when I was a child would have been a fortune. I am sure that my dear departed mother took care of herself and me

on one-half of that amount. We did not have any butter on our bread, however. We did not sit up nights and have a fire burning, because we could not afford it. We went to bed very early. Why? Because we had plenty of bed clothes.

And whosoever among you are sick, and have not faith to be healed, but believe, shall be nourished with all tenderness, with herbs and mild food, and that not by the hand of an enemy.

And the elders of the Church, two or more, shall be called, and shall pray for and lay their hands upon them in my name; and if they die they shall die unto me, and if they live, they shall live unto me.

Thou shalt live together in love, insomuch that thou shalt weep for the loss of them that die, and more especially for those that have not a hope of a glorious resurrection.

And it shall come to pass that those that die in me shall not taste of death, for it shall be sweet unto them.

I now read from Section 88, verses 124 and 125:

Cease to be idle; cease to be unclean; cease to find fault one with another; cease to sleep longer than is needful; retire to thy bed early, that ye may not be weary; arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated.

And above all things, clothe yourselves with the bond of charity, as with a mantle, which is the bond of perfectness and peace.

I now read from Section 58, verses 27 to 29:

For behold, it is not meant that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all times, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore he receiveth no reward.

Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness;

For the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves. And inasmuch as men do good they shall in nowise lose their reward.

I have heard any number of Latter-day Saints say, "Why, the Word of Wisdom is not a commandment." What does the Word of Wisdom say? That it is the mind and will of the Lord. And why was it given? "In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days." A more damnable and evil design was never in the heart of any man than the advertisements that we see on the billboards showing a beautiful woman with an engagement or wedding ring, the smoke of the cigarette making the ring.

What is the purpose of these advertisements? To get money by selling cigarettes to destroy the mind and the body and the intelligence of boys and girls. I get hot in the collar, as the saying is, every time I think of the millions upon millions, and the billions upon billions of cigarettes that are consumed.

THE WAY TO TEMPORAL SALVATION

Do you want to know how to obtain temporal salvation? Not only the Latter-day Saints, but all the world would have the solution of that problem if there were no tea, coffee, liquor nor tobacco used in the world. Peace, prosperity and happiness would come to the entire world.

I now read from Section 130:

Whatever principle of intelligence we attain unto in this life, it will rise with us in the resurrection.

And if a person gains more knowledge and intelligence in this life through his diligence and obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come.

I know of no one of our general authorities who has studied more or was better posted—I know of no one of them who has been a greater promulgator of the Gospel of Jesus Christ—than were the two men who were with us six months ago, James E. Talmage, and Brigham H. Roberts, who have since passed away. They will go on progressing beyond the grave, and using that marvellous store of knowledge and information that they had gained. We miss them; the whole Church will miss them.

There is a law, irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of the world, upon which all blessings are predicated.

Spiritual and temporal salvation, with the destroying angel passing us by will come from observing the Word of Wisdom. It would solve all the problems of the Latter-day Saints, and of the nation, and of the whole world, if it were observed. Notwithstanding the fact that this anonymous Latter-day Saint asked me not to say anything about the Word of Wisdom, as I said before, you can read nearly an hour's sermon about it if you will read my sermon preached in this tabernacle six months ago.

May the Lord bless and inspire all who shall speak during the conference. May we grow in the light and knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May each and every one of us who has a testimony of the divinity of the work in which we are engaged so live it in honesty in the daily affairs of life, so live it in energy and not in idleness, and so live it that those seeing our good deeds may be led to investigate the Gospel and receive that sweet and wonderful testimony that gives us a knowledge of the divinity of the mission and the Godliness of the mission of Jesus Christ our Saviour and our Redeemer, is my humble prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.—(General Conference address, delivered October 8th, 1933.)

RESPONSIBILITY AND DESTINY OF THE CHURCH

PRESIDENT ANTHONY W. IVINS

MY brethren and sisters, I desire to express the gratitude which I feel that I am permitted to meet again in the general conference of the Church. I have not been well, but through the blessing of the Lord I have not been seriously sick. I thank Him and praise His name for this privilege.

I love to be here at these gatherings of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I love to listen to the voices of my brethren who are called upon to address you. It is one of the joys of my life.

Naturally, knowing that I might be asked to make remarks at this conference, I have thought of something to say. I knew the message that I wished to deliver, but was at loss to find words with which to properly express it. Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, in his remarks, supplied me with a text. He quoted from the

words of the Prophet Ezekiel, words which, notwithstanding the centuries which have passed since they were uttered, are as applicable to us to-day as they were when the Lord uttered them to him. It was an admonition to him personally.

The Israelitish people had turned from the faith of their fathers to the worship of idols. The Lord called Ezekiel, the son of Buzi, to go to them and proclaim His word, and he tells us that he went to those who dwelt upon the river Chebar, and abode with them for seven days. He marvelled at their wickedness, at their lack of faith, and hesitated to declare the message which the Lord had sent him to deliver. It was at this time that the Lord called his attention to the fact that when He required at the hands of a man the accomplishment of a work when He sent him to call the wicked people to repentance, and he failed to deliver that message, and the wicked died in their sins, he may be held responsible for it. But He also said to him that if he complied with the commands of God our Father, and warned the wicked man of his ways, then if the man died in wickedness, he had complied with his duty and would not be held responsible. He called his attention to the fact that he had made him a watchman upon the towers of Zion, a man through whom he might properly send His word to unbelieving people.

LOYALTY TO GOVERNMENT AND CHURCH

I have often read this scripture, have studied it carefully, and endeavoured to understand its import and application. I have asked myself this question: What application has this command of the Lord to you? The answer that has come to me has always been the same. It is this: Whatever my profession, whether it be as a citizen of the government to which I have given my allegiance, or a member of the Church with which I affiliate, it becomes my duty to magnify in my life the ideals for which my country stands and the doctrines which my Church teaches.

If I fall in either, and by example or precept lead other people away from loyalty to their country or to indifference and lack of attention to religious duties, I have in a sense become responsible, and I never feel this responsibility more than when I stand before a congregation of Latter-day Saints in the attitude of teacher, for the Lord expects men and women who accept responsibility to magnify it, otherwise they will be in judgment.

This particular scripture which was quoted called my special attention to prophecy, the inspired word of God our Father, which is uttered by His servants the prophets, modern and ancient. I thought of its importance, of its application to us, and so sat down and outlined some of the results of prophecy in which we modern people are particularly interested.

The word prophet, defined in the Hebrew language, means one who has been called to denounce sin and foretell the consequences and punishment of it. He is to be above all else a preacher of righteousness, to call the people back from idolatry to faith in the living God, and when moved upon by the Spirit of the Lord to foretell coming events. But more particularly a prophet is to be an expounder of present duties and an interpreter of the meaning and application of the written word.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1933

EDITORIAL

CONFERENCES

PRECEDENT, a century old, that found its beginning in a revelation from God to the Prophet Joseph Smith at the organization of the Church, has made conferences an established institution in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The great general semi-annual gatherings, and the mission and district gatherings as well, are as mileposts in the glorious journey of Church achievement and growth in this dispensation. Believers gather to receive instruction from their leaders, to renew old friendships, to refresh their loyalty, to enlarge their understanding, to grow in the faith—and to thrill to the strength of fellowship that permeates the assembled saints, united by the same fraternal bond. Indeed, the secret of the great internal strength of the Church lies, in part, in the great unifying power of such gatherings.

The General Conference meetings of the Church are seldom without announcements and decisions of intense Church-wide interest. Perhaps of greatest interest in the Fall sessions which were concluded Sunday, October 8th, was the announcement of the men selected to fill the vacancies caused by the deaths of Apostle James E. Talmage and President B. H. Roberts. Charles A. Callis, who becomes the 56th apostle to be chosen a member of the Council of Twelve, has spent over a quarter of a century in active missionary service. He is a man of consistent devotion—humble and yet able in his work. John H. Taylor, who assumes new responsibility as one of the First Presidents of Seventy, has, since his boyhood, served the Church in numerous capacities. In his recent responsibility of presiding over the Missionary Training Home, he has endeared himself to thousands of missionaries. Both of these men were sustained by a unanimous vote of the conference, and both will serve their Church and people well. Their selection is an example of the procedure followed in choosing men for responsible positions in the Church. Neither knew of the honour to fall upon him prior to the meeting at which his name was presented to the people.

The inspired addresses of the First Presidency to the conference and to the saints at large will be found elsewhere in this and subsequent issues of the *Star*. The message of the gathering, if its comprehensiveness does not preclude summary, was a plea to the saints to live more closely to the laws of the Gospel that govern personal integrity, contact with others, and support and allegiance to the governments under which they live and

receive protection. With the keen powers of perception and analysis that bespeak divine inspiration, speaker after speaker urged the people to give rigid adherence to the revelations and commandments of God, emphasizing the relation of the American prohibition question to the Word of Wisdom, and pointing out the importance of conformity to the admonitions and advice of God's chosen leaders.

In addition to the general sessions many phases of Church activity were represented during the three day's conference. To large audiences, the Relief Society presented a pageant, "The Laurel Wreath," portraying in tableaux, verse and music, the society's educational programme. M. I. A. Officers and Teachers participated in a testimony meeting that was characterized by intense enthusiasm for their work. The Genealogical Society's programme, "The Spirit of Temple Building and Temple Service," served as a challenge to the present generation to utilize the facilities that their predecessors sacrificed and toiled to produce. A distinct contrast to show the broad scope of Priesthood activities was provided by the meetings of the Aaronic Priesthood youths, and the assembly of Patriarchs. And, in the concluding meeting, Sunday evening, the Deseret Sunday School Union, under the theme of "Preparation for Eternal Life," presented the various lesson helps and plans that will be followed in Sunday School work during the ensuing year. Indeed, the activities of the auxiliary organizations gave to the conference the spirit of a religious festival.

Nowhere, perhaps, are the blessings and edification of the spirit of gathering in such abundance as in the conferences of the Church and its Missions. It is a distinct privilege to attend them and to partake of the spirit of friendship, the encouragement and the inspiration, and other kindred blessings that arise from them. We in the missions of Zion may enjoy these spiritual blessings as freely and magnificently as do our brethren and sisters in the centre stakes of Zion, for the same sweet Spirit moves our assemblies, our leaders instruct and teach us under the guidance of the same Directing Head, and we have the same organizations and auxiliaries to give us opportunity for development and expression. The advantages and benefits of Conferences are indeed universal and Church-wide.—RICHARD S. BENNETT.

"MORMONISM" awakens in the hearts of those who can comprehend its splendid credentials that soul-stirring faith in Jesus Christ and in His perfect way of life that impels them to obey Him, and work for Him with that self-sacrificing life that purifies the heart, refines the spirit, ennobles the mind, glorifies the character, and gives that complete victory over foes of the soul which is the highest achievement and perfect salvation.—NEPHI JENSEN.

RESPONSIBILITY AND DESTINY OF THE CHURCH

(Concluded from page 727)

We at the present day have an entirely different relationship to prophecy than had those who lived at the time that many of the most important of the prophecies made were uttered. People of Bible days looked hopefully and in faith forward to the fulfillment of the words of the prophets.

We look backward and see that many, very many of those important predictions have been fulfilled. We know, if we study them carefully, that we are living at a time when they are being fulfilled, and that we are the actors in their fulfillment, whether we are conscious of it or not. And we know further, if we are to judge by the signs of the times which have been given to us by the prophets, and Christ Himself, that we are upon the very verge of the fulfillment of the most important of them all, when God our Father will consummate His work, when Christ our Lord shall come to rule and assume dominion over the kingdoms of this world.

It was four thousand years ago that the Lord called Abraham from Ur of the Chaldees, and brought him up into Palestine, to a country and people who were alien to his own race, and entered into a new covenant with him. This man was ninety years of age and was childless, yet the Lord told him to look over all the land of Palestine, from north to south and from east to west, and promised that He would give this land to his posterity who, He declared, would become, by comparison, as numerous as the sands upon the seashore or the stars of heaven.

THE WORD OF THE LORD FULFILLED

It was not until one thousand years later that this prediction, this covenant of the Lord, was fulfilled. When David, the shepherd king, led the armies of Israel, subdued the last Jebusite defenders of the city of Jerusalem, and established his capital city at that place, was the word of the Lord fulfilled. Israel did become at that time one of the dominant and most influential kingdoms of the known world.

We, my brethren and sisters, are assembled here to-day in this historic building, in a city which we call Salt Lake, in a territory which we call Utah, a territory which forms one of the forty-eight federated states of our union, each state independent in its own sphere, but all bound together by constitutional law, which welds them into a single entity.

Only yesterday the ground upon which this building stands, in fact, the entire area covered by the United States of America, was an uncultivated wilderness. The prophets of the Lord, centuries before, had predicted the existence of this land, before it was known to the people of the old world. They had outlined to us the establishment of this government of ours; they had declared that upon this land, which to them was a land choice above all others, there would be established a system of civil government, which would be a light to the world; a government to which would be gathered the remnant of the scattered house of Israel; a government in which men would enjoy equal rights under the law; a government in which men would act as their own conscience might prompt them to do—with this restriction,

however, that in that which they did they must not infringe upon the rights of others or prevent them from exercising the agency which they themselves exercised.

The prophet Isaiah, referring to this land of America, these everlasting hills, declared that at a future time—the time to which he referred was the latter days—the house of the Lord would be established here, and that all nations would flow into it; that they would be taught here the way of the Lord and learn to walk in His paths. By foreknowledge of God the prophets declared that by the direction of His Spirit the Lord would bring people to this continent who would establish this form of government, and said they would never be overthrown or conquered by other nations, if they would but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ.

The destiny of America from the day that Columbus sailed from the ports of Spain to the present, was declared by the prophets of the Lord, as I have said, before the people of Europe knew that America existed. The sailing of Columbus, from the port of Palos, in Spain, was not a thing of chance. It had been declared by the prophets nearly two thousand years before that the Spirit of the Lord would rest upon a man among the Gentiles, and that he would sail forth and land upon this continent. As he sailed on and on over the uncharted seas, his crew was in open revolt. They declared that they would go no farther, and that upon the morrow they would turn the prows of their ships back to the east and endeavour to find their way back to Spain; but upon that eventful night a gun from the *Pinta* announced that land had been sighted. A new world had been discovered.

HISTORY OF AMERICAN NATION COMMENCES

Two hundred years after the landing of Columbus another landing occurred which had been just as definitely declared by the prophets of God. When the Pilgrim Fathers anchored their ships off Plymouth Rock, another prophecy had been fulfilled and the history of the American nation had been commenced. Both of these events had been declared, according to the dates I have been able to discover, two thousand years before their final accomplishment.

For more than a century the colonists who had come from the Old World continued to live under the governments of the countries from which they came. At the end of that time, and this, too, in fulfillment of the decrees of the prophets, they declared that they of right were and should be an independent people.

The Declaration of Independence was published to the world, the War of Independence was fought and won, and our ship of state was launched on a troubled sea. The hour had struck that kingcraft and priestcraft, which for ages had held the struggling masses of the world in thralldom, under perverted control both in civil and religious life, were to be stricken and the people of the world were to be emancipated from the shackles with which they had been bound.

A half century had elapsed since the establishment of our government, when another event of transcendent importance to the world occurred. The events that I have so briefly and imperfectly outlined up to the present were simply the foreordained

and divine accomplishments that were to occur for the accomplishment of a divine purpose. Our Lord taught His apostles that though His life might be taken by His enemies, though the kingdom which He would have established might be destroyed by men, yet would He live on and come again to assume control and dominion over the earth. When they asked Him when this would be—"give us a sign," they pleaded, "by which we may know the time of your coming, and the establishment of your kingdom"—He outlined the things which would occur in the world, things which we are passing through to-day, as plainly as though He had seen them, and definitely declared that this Gospel of the kingdom should be restored and preached in all the world as a witness.

That promise, my brethren and sisters, was fulfilled eighteen hundred years later when, through the ministry of Christ our Lord and under His direction, the opening of the present Gospel dispensation was effected through Joseph Smith and those who were associated with him.

PROPOSED THAT WASHINGTON BE DECLARED KING

Immediately after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, trouble, as serious as any which our government has since experienced, occurred. The army was about to be disbanded, there was no money with which to pay the soldiers for the years of devoted service which they had rendered their country. It was proposed that Washington be declared king and that the confederation of states be dissolved. Others denounced Washington as the person responsible for all of the trouble with which they were threatened. The army threatened to march upon the Congress and enforce its demands, and for fear that this might be accomplished, Congress adjourned and moved its place of meeting from Philadelphia to Princeton in New Jersey.

"While these plotters were assembled," Fiske says—I have copied this from his writings, and now quote—"Washington suddenly came into the meeting and amid profound silence broke forth in a most eloquent and profound speech. "All," he says, "were hushed by that majestic presence and those solemn tones. He pled for patience"—as Elder Richards pled for it here yesterday—"for tolerance, for trust in the newly born government which would in the end pay that which it owed. The soldiers listened, hesitated and yielded to the irrepressible presence of the man who, more than any other, had made the establishment of our nation possible."

From that time to the present our country has met and solved many grave problems; it has had wars and emerged victorious from them. It has had financial depressions, many of them; but notwithstanding this trouble, it has gone on. I might go on and quote part of the notes I have here, from the war of the rebellion, when fratricidal war shook the foundations upon which the government was established, down until the present time. From all of these we have emerged stronger, more influential, more powerful, until to-day the United States of America has become one of the most influential and wealthy nations in the world.

At the same time, paradoxical though the statement may appear to you, in the midst of all its wealth, surrounded by the

abundance which the Lord has showered upon us, we know that millions of our fellow citizens are in dire need for the common necessities of life. Every citizen who is familiar with existing conditions in our country knows that embarrassing situations and complex questions confront us at the present time.

They are not only perplexing to the national government, but to the various states which constitute the Union, the counties which constitute the states, and the municipalities which constitute the counties; and to a greater or less extent, my brethren and sisters, they affect every individual of the commonwealth, as you who hear my voice well know from your own experience.

Three things have conspired during the past decade which more than any other, although there have been many ramifications from them, to create the present unfortunate situation. They are, as I analyze them, the following:

First, the unprecedented disposition among the citizens of our country to treat with indifference the obligation of obedience to civil law, and the indifference manifested by administrative officers in the administration of it.

Second, the frenzied desire of selfish men to become suddenly wealthy regardless of the ethics of the means employed to accomplish their ambitious and unrighteous desires.

Third, the increasing indifference of our people to the sacredness of religious obligation.

GOVERNMENTS ARE INSTITUTED OF GOD

The revelations given for the guidance of the Church tell us definitely that governments are instituted of God for the benefit of man, and admonish us to be obedient to the civil law in countries in which we reside; that it is the right of all men to act in both private and public affairs as their conscience may direct, but, as I have stated, with the limitations that they are not to infringe upon the privileges and rights of others.

The Lord says—and this is quoted from a revelation:

And for this purpose have I established the Constitution of this land by the hands of wise men, whom I raised up for this very purpose, and redeemed the land by the shedding of blood.

If this government was established by God our Father, no argument should be necessary to convince you that anti-Christ is opposed to it. Lucifer is the enemy of God and Christ, His Son. His minions have always been arrayed against them. He fights to lead men away from the Redeemer of the world. Never have His emissaries been more active than at the present time. The very elements appear to combine to bring confusion and tribulation to the people of this troubled world of ours. Both physical and spiritual forces are at work to effect and accomplish, if possible, our ruin.

Shall Christ or Lucifer triumph in this conflict? This government of ours, and all other governments need the strength of the Church. It was by Christian people under God that our government was founded and has been maintained. I have faith in the soul of the American people. They may stumble, they may waver, wicked men may for a time seize control of the affairs of government, but even though confronted by chaos, these people

whom the Lord has brought here will rise in their might and with the help of God will triumph.

Just as the government has had its difficulties, has had its trials, has been at times almost upon the verge of destruction, so has the Church since its organization. Its members have been driven, they have been persecuted, they have been misunderstood; and, like Saul of Tarsus, under the impression that they were doing God service, men have endeavoured to destroy its influence. Notwithstanding its drivings, notwithstanding the suffering of its people, like the government of which we form a part, the Church has become stronger, more powerful in influence and better than ever before, I believe in its history, and I say the word better believing it to be true.

I appeal to you, my brethren and sisters, and to all others who are under the sound of my voice, or to whom my words may come, to remain firm and immovable in life or death to the principles upon which this government of ours is founded. In its sphere it occupies the same relationship to our Father in Heaven that the Church does. He is clearly the author of both, each to act in its own sphere—the government for the temporal protection and welfare of mankind, and the Church for their spiritual salvation.

GET IN HARMONY WITH THE CIVIL OFFICERS

And so I feel impressed to call upon my brethren and sisters to support and magnify and to do their duty to both the state and the Church. We need the sympathetic support of government wherever we are. You mission presidents who go into the field to proclaim the glad tidings of the restoration, my first act would be to get in harmony with the civil officers of the country in which I laboured.

We are frequently oppressed because people do not understand us. They do not know our mission, and that in many instances is because we have never endeavoured to impress upon the minds of governing officers the real mission which we come to deliver. So I say we require the sympathetic support of the civil law. Without it Lucifer will sweep truth from the earth as he did in the primitive Church, and substitute in its stead the worship of idols.

I want to say to you men of the Church who may be present or you who are absent, and may hear my words—you doctors, lawyers, bankers and merchants; you men who, because of your busy lives, have forgotten perhaps the full sense of responsibility to the Church of which you form a part—return to it, renew your affiliation with it. The Church needs you, it needs your intelligence, it needs your learning, your wisdom, as you need the strength which only the Church can afford. Your fathers, many of them, laid down their lives in its establishment. Come back to it and help us in this time of stress.

I am sure that with this combined strength, my brethren and sisters, the proper union of the Church with the state, and the proper union of the state with the Church, we shall triumph. Without it our heritage may pass into the alien hands of a godless, idolatrous people. There is real fear of that except we faithfully do our duty, both to this government of ours, one of the

best there is in the world, with all its weaknesses, the government established by God our Father. I pledge myself to be obedient to its laws. I have always been, and to the men who have administered its affairs, notwithstanding the fact that they may have weaknesses.

God bless you, my brethren and sisters, to keep in the faith. Do not falter. The daydawn is breaking, when Christ our Lord shall come, not only to assume dominion over His Church, of which we form a part, but over the world at large. It was by Church people, do not forget, that this government was founded and the foundations of it were laid. It has been by Church people that it has been maintained, and it will be by Church people that it shall be rescued from chaos, if it is rescued at all. God bless you. Amen.—(Conference address delivered Sunday, October 8th, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.)

LEEDS DISTRICT CONFERENCE

AGAIN this autumn, to give the scores of Bradford friends an opportunity to hear the Mission Authorities, the Leeds District Conference was held, October 15th, in Bradford. All three sessions were well attended, and everyone enjoyed the wonderful spirit that was present at each meeting. Feature of the day was the "mock" debate during the afternoon session, in which four local members participated. Upholding the affirmative, they proved "Mormonism" to be the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, and showed that its teachings are based on Holy Writ. Their efforts were well received.

The District Activity Report, presented by President William H. Clawson, gave evidence of the missionaries' interest and initiative. They spent 4,832 hours in active missionary work, of which 635 hours were spent with investigators, and 217 hours were spent tracting. Calls answered while tracting numbered 2,325; Gospel conversations, 360; and invitations in while tracting, 35. Literature distributed totaled 5,099 tracts, five copies of the Book of Mormon, 15 other Church books, and 171 pamphlets.

As the morning session was devoted to the usual business and instruction, it remained for the speakers of the evening session to provide the thrilling climax of the day. President James H. Douglas, arising to the occasion, spoke of "Mormonism," telling that it meant "more good," and showing doctrinally and by actual results, its value as a guide to life. Sister Rintla Pratt Douglas praised the character of the early Church leaders, citing historical instances as illustrations of their moral courage. Elder Leslie T. Norton explained genealogical work, and reiterated the promises that have been made to those who accept it as a responsibility. President Clawson discussed "revelation" and its place in this dispensation.

Supplementing the programme of speakers were musical numbers contributed by a string orchestra, and vocal duets by two sisters of the Leeds Branch.

The conference was under the direction of President James H. Douglas of the British Mission, and the auxiliary meetings and

activities were directed by Sister Rintha Pratt Douglas, consulting supervisor of auxiliaries, and president of the Relief Societies of the British Mission. Also in attendance were Elder Leslie T. Norton of the British Mission Office; President Vern R. Butcher of the Norwich District; President Raphael C. Palfreyman of the Sheffield District; President William H. Clawson, Elders Joseph H. Chapman, Elliott H. Merrill and Joseph F. Smith, Jr., of the Leeds District.

JOSEPH H. CHAPMAN, Clerk of Conference.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Arrivals and Assignments: The following Elders arrived in England November 1st, on the s.s. *Washington*, and were assigned to labour as designated:

Conway Alan Ashton, of Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Hull District.

Kenneth Fay Cropper, of Midvale, Utah, to the Nottingham District.

John Lowell Van Orman, of Montpelier, Idaho, to the Portsmouth District.

Lane Webster Adams, of Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Scottish District.

Horace Lincoln Hulme, of Bloomington, Idaho, to the Welsh District.

Erastus Jay Milne, of Whittier, California, to the Liverpool District.

Gordon Kearn Ashley, of Montpelier, Idaho, to the Birmingham District.

Transfers: On October 31st, the following transfers were made: Elder Farron E. Cutler from the London to the Welsh District; Elder William A. DeHart from the Birmingham to the Hull District; Elder Levi D. Hammon from the Hull to the Birmingham District; Elder Elmer R. Longson from the Sheffield to the London District; Elder Herbert T. Edgar from the Welsh to the Sheffield District.

Appointments: The following have received District Presidency appointments: Elder Harvey F. Freestone, to preside over Leeds District, November 1st. Elder Heber I. Boden to preside over Nottingham District; and Elder Douglas R. Clawson to preside over Newcastle District, November 4th.

Elder John D. Riggs was appointed supervisor of Sunday School and Genealogical work in the British Mission on November 4th.

Release: Elder William H. Clawson of the Sheffield and Ulster Districts, and President of the Leeds District, was released on November 1st. He will return to his home in America on the s.s. *Manhattan*, sailing November 23rd.

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